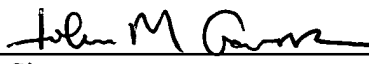


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1103326-0519**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Pettersson et al.  
Serial No. : 09/125,888  
Filed : August 27, 1998  
For : BARRIER MATERIAL  
Examiner : Arnold III, T.  
Group Art Unit : 3728

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231.	
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

05/23/2000 EHAMMOND 00000006 09125888

02 FC:128 Sir: 1850.00 OP

A restriction requirement was issued in the referenced application by an Office Action, mailed November 19, 1999. By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants wish to respond to the restriction requirement and concurrently amend the claims to more clearly define the invention and remove instances of improper multiple dependent claiming. Apart from the restriction requirement, there has been no substantive examination of the claims.